



# Ground System Survivability Overview



**TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.**

Steve Knott  
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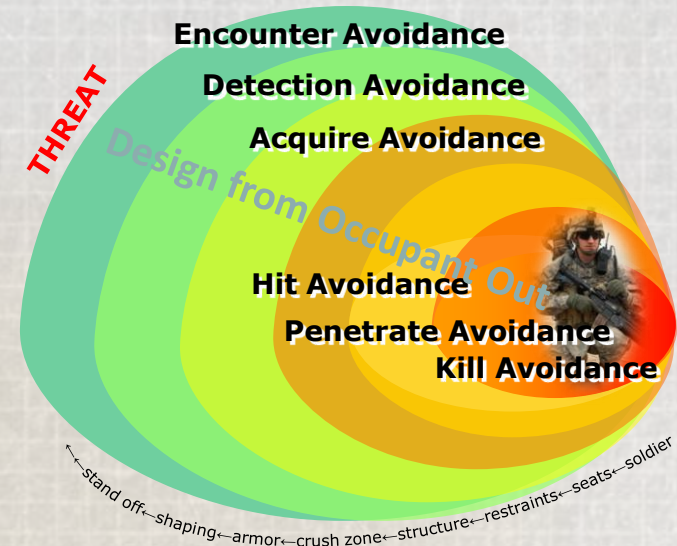
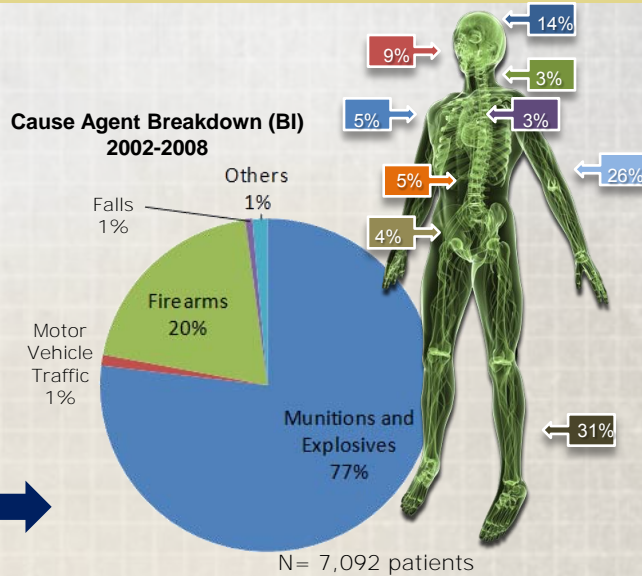
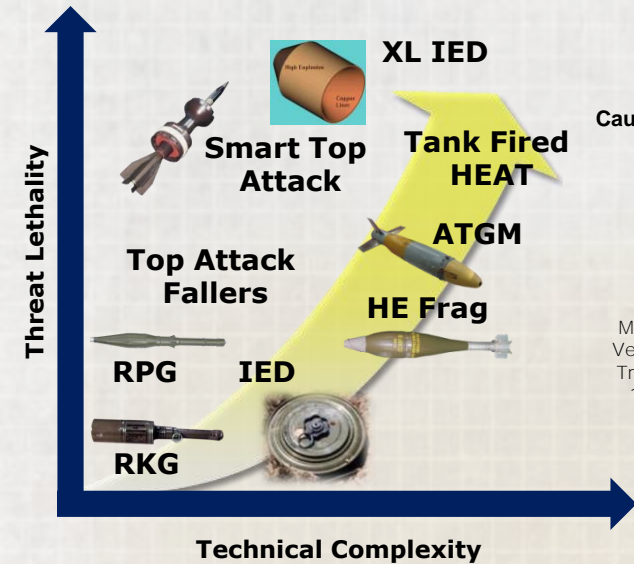
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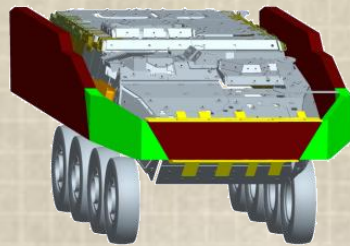
# Excellence in Ground Systems Survivability Occupant Centric Vehicle Protection



**Increasing Demands and Operational Flexibility  
Require Strategic Investments in Key Areas**



Kill Avoidance



Penetration Avoidance



Hit Avoidance



Detection Avoidance

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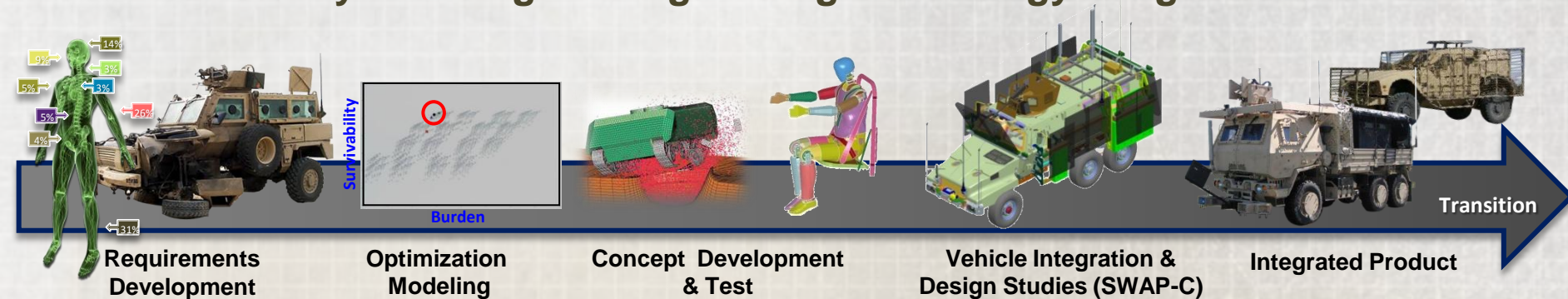




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# Excellence in Ground Systems Survivability Occupant Centric Vehicle Protection

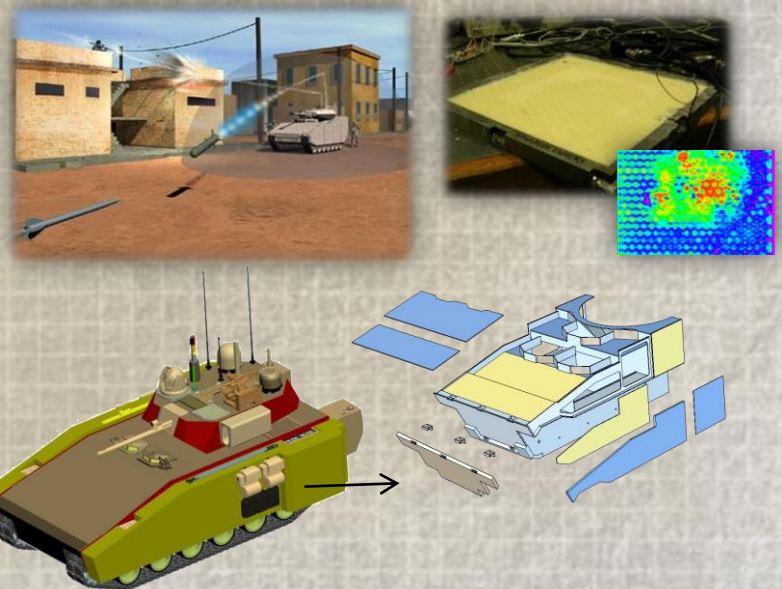
## System Engineering Driving Technology Integration



## Supporting the Current Force



## Enabling the Future Fight



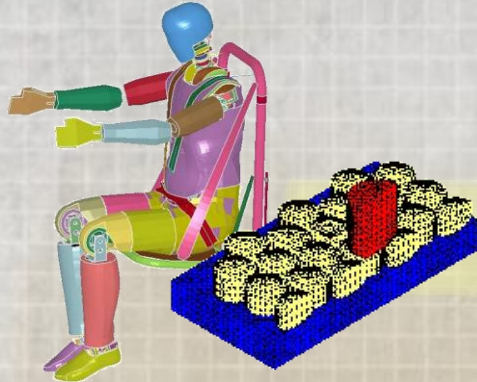
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# Excellence in Ground Systems Survivability Occupant Centric Vehicle Protection

## Outreach & University



## Shaping Requirements



## Laboratories & Facilities



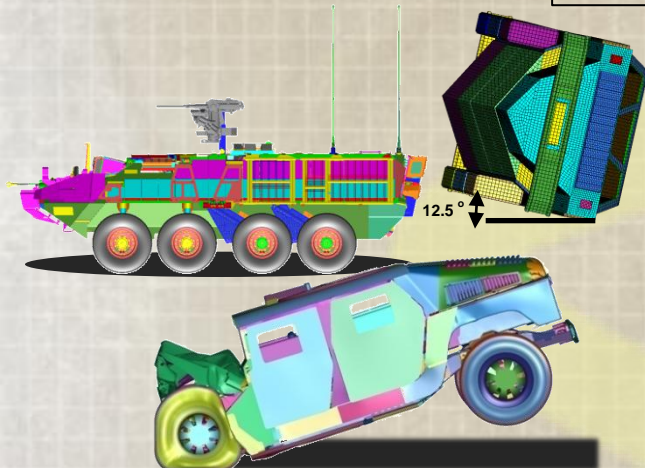
GCV Concept  
Survivability  
**Building Requirements**

OSD APS Testing

OSD APS Testing



International



## Building Modeling & Simulation



## Component Development



## System Analysis & Prototypes

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# Driving Innovation across the Ground Community

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- Novel, inventive vehicle design approaches
- Rapid acquisition (12-18 month timelines)
- Extensive use of M&S tools to optimize design
- Non-tradition defense project partners
- Embedded with ARCIC to drive requirements generation for future platform requirements

| Project Weight Class  | Project Objectives   | Project Partners   | Project Schedule   |
|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Heavy Combat</b><br>100,000 - 140,000 lbs  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Soldier-Centric Vehicle Design</li><li>• Modular, Reconfigurable Vehicle Systems</li><li>• Targeting selected GCV Objective Requirements</li></ul> | <br><b>ACT VI Project</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 18-24 months for Multiple Concept Development</li></ul>                              |
| <b>Medium Combat</b><br>40,000 - 60,000 lbs   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• S-MOD/MPC Threshold Survivability</li><li>• Motor Sports Vehicle Design Process</li><li>• M1 Equivalent Mobility</li></ul>                         | <b>Professional Motorsports Industry</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12-18 months from Concept to Build (tentative)</li></ul>                             |
| <br><b>Light Tactical</b><br>14,000 - 16,000 lbs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FED Program—OSD Funded</li><li>• 30% Fuel Economy Improvement over M1151</li><li>• Maintain Mobility of M1114</li></ul>                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RICARDO</li><li>• WTSI – Global Services</li></ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12 month Tech Discovery phase</li><li>• 18-24 months from Concept to Build</li></ul> |
|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MRAP Threshold Survivability</li><li>• &lt;14,000 lbs Vehicle Weight</li><li>• System Cost of \$250,000</li></ul>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HARDWIRE – Composite Armor Systems</li></ul>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12 months from Design to Build</li></ul>   |

**RDECOM will rapidly develop platform designs and demonstrators driving innovation in the areas of ground platform survivability and mobility**

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**Risa Scherer**  
**Team Leader- Blast Mitigation Team**  
**Ground Systems Survivability**  
**26 OCT 2010**

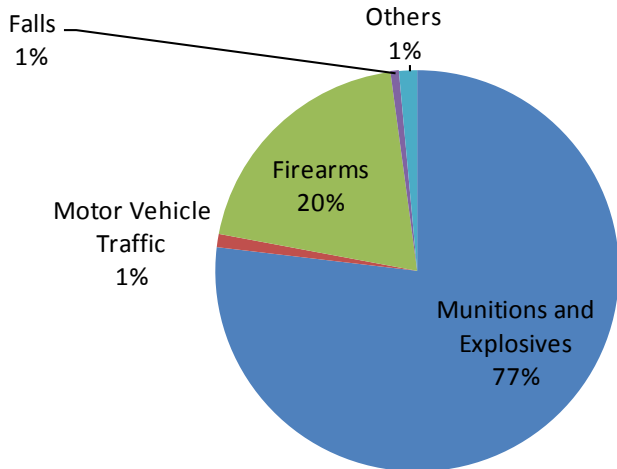
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**Current Force Vehicles, although Survivable, have been designed from the outside in.**

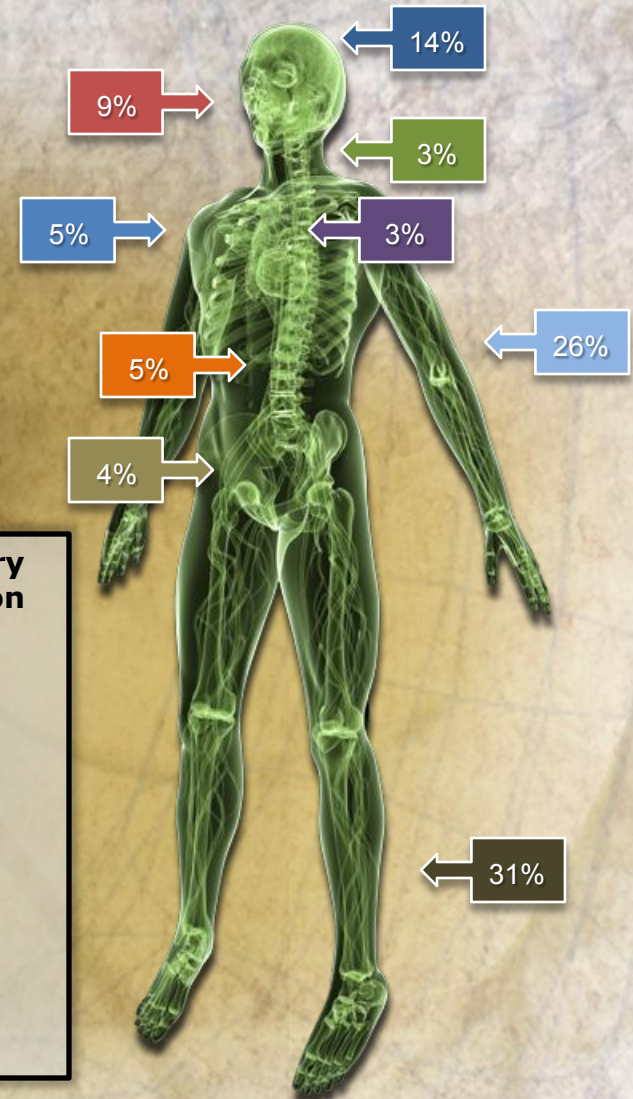
**The Threat has Changed....our design philosophy has to change**

**Cause Agent Breakdown (BI)  
2002-2008**



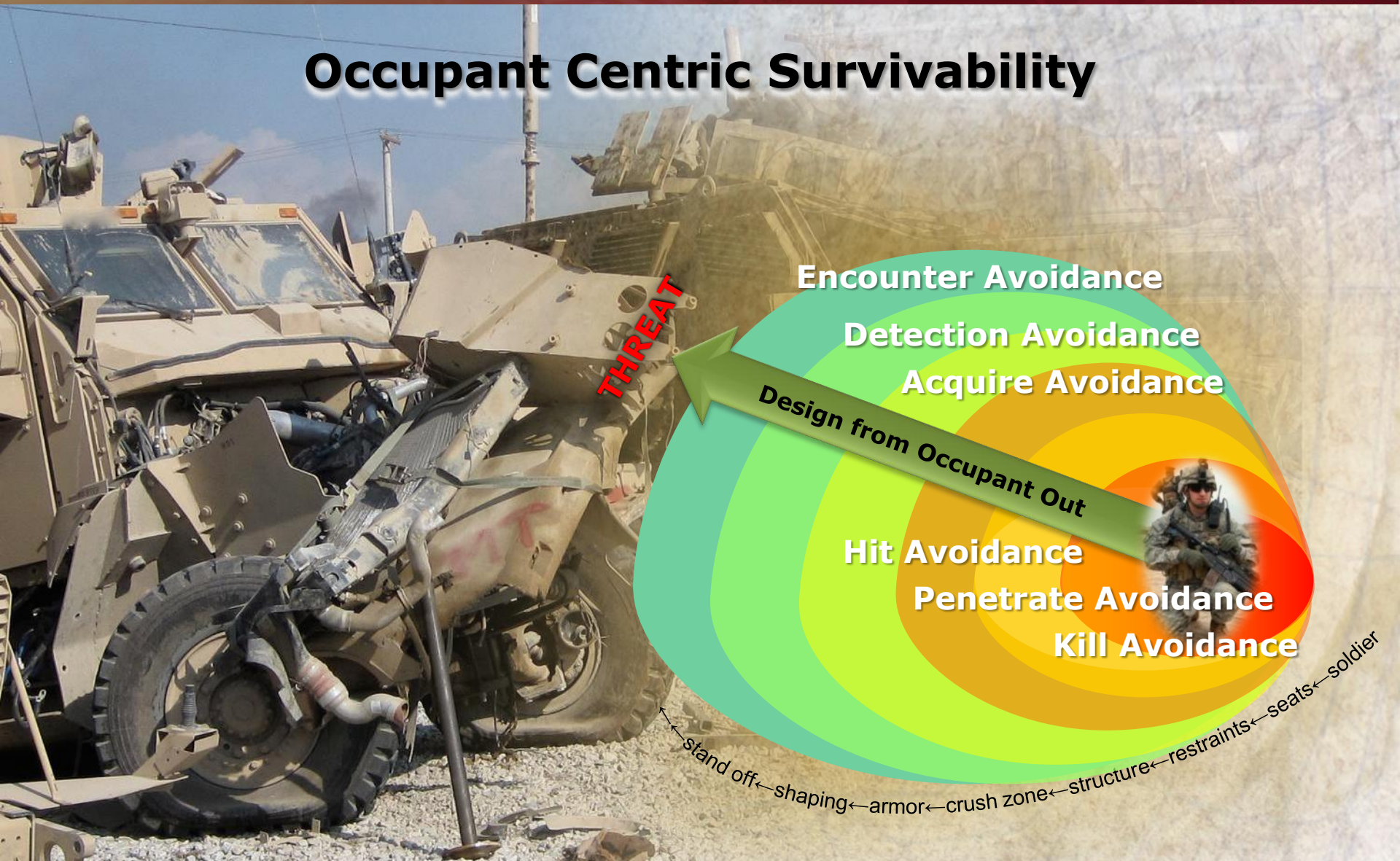
N=7,092 patients

**Age of Primary  
Body Region**





## Occupant Centric Survivability

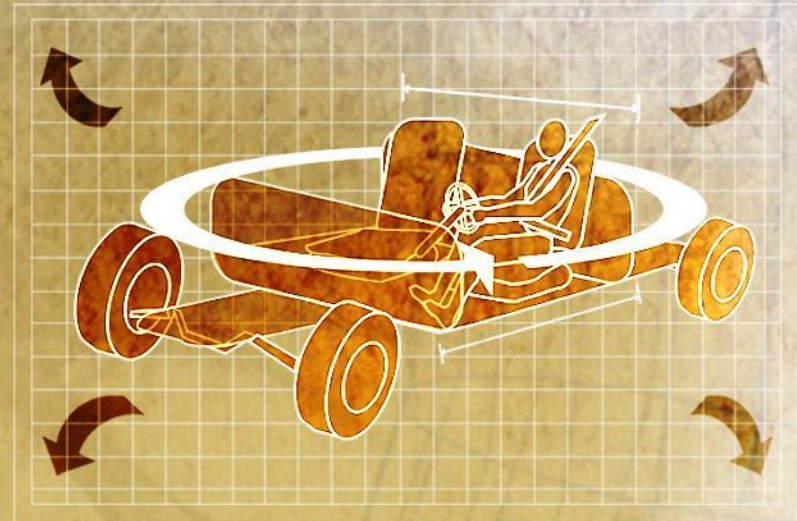




## Outside In



## Inside Out



**Occupant Protection Drives  
Vehicle Design**





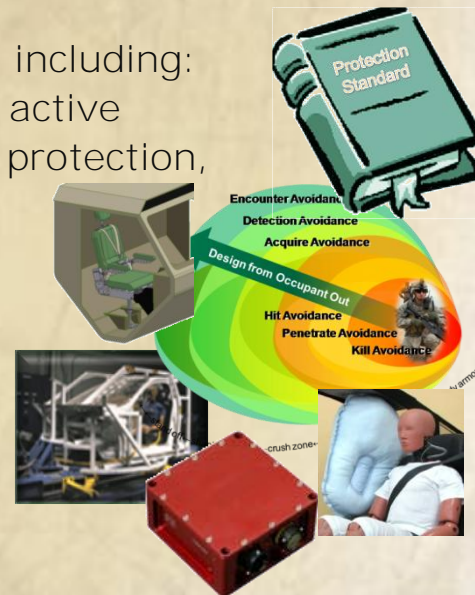
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## Occupant Centric System Integration Mission



- Provide superior customer support in the field of mine blast/IED and crash/rollover Occupant Protection technology Integration and Optimization and establish a state-of-the art laboratory to analyze the effects of System-Level component interaction

- PRODUCT:
  - Update/develop vehicle standards, models, and simulations for occupant protection against mines/IEDs
  - Build and test two integrated Occupant-Centric Survivability Technology Demonstrators
    - Demonstrate an ideal occupant compartment on a concept demonstrator
    - Integrate ideal occupant protection technologies onto a current force vehicle
  - Assessment and baseline of ground vehicles with respect to underbody blast/fragmentation
  - Develop/mature & spinout TRL 6 occupant protection technologies, including: Underbody mine/IED armor solutions, energy management seats, active restraints, air bags, event data recorder, extremity fragmentation protection, M&S support for effects due to blast and fragmentation etc.
- CUSTOMER:
  - All ground combat platforms
- TARGETED THREATS:
  - All Underbody Mine/IED Threats







# UNCLASSIFIED What Does Occupant Survivability Entail?



- Occupant Survivability is:
  - The combination of many factors, including: vehicle weight, geometry (stand-off, hull shape), occupant protection technologies (seating, location false floor), charge size, and charge location, and how these factors interact with the crew member.
- Most effective protection for the occupants against the blast impulse is to decouple the occupants from the system structure.
- Design principles:
  - Decouple the occupant from the system structure
  - Divert blast energy away from the vehicle
  - Limit acceleration of the vehicle
  - Prevent breach of the vehicle
  - Limit the acceleration of the occupants
  - Protect the occupants from lethal debris
- Occupant Survivability needs to be designed in from the **beginning, not as an afterthought... design from the inside out.**



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# Current Capabilities



- RDECOM has one-of-a-kind “system level” underbody M&S capabilities that can be used for risk reduction for significant milestone decisions.
- Capabilities can be used for requirements definition and trade studies.
- Tools can be used to understand gaps between LFT&E events to increase confidence & decrease uncertainty in system capabilities & limitations.
- Can be run in series with Concept Refinement and Technology Development activities and parallel to System Development and Demonstration activities.

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- Physical Testing
  - Drop tower
  - Live fire
  - Ergonomic evaluation
- M&S Analysis
  - Obtain Technology and/or vehicle models
  - Correlate the model to test event
  - Parametric studies
    - Technology characteristics (mounting, geometry, material properties etc.)
    - Threat size and location
    - How it will be integrated into the vehicle
  - Prediction of LFT&E event
- Injury Assessment

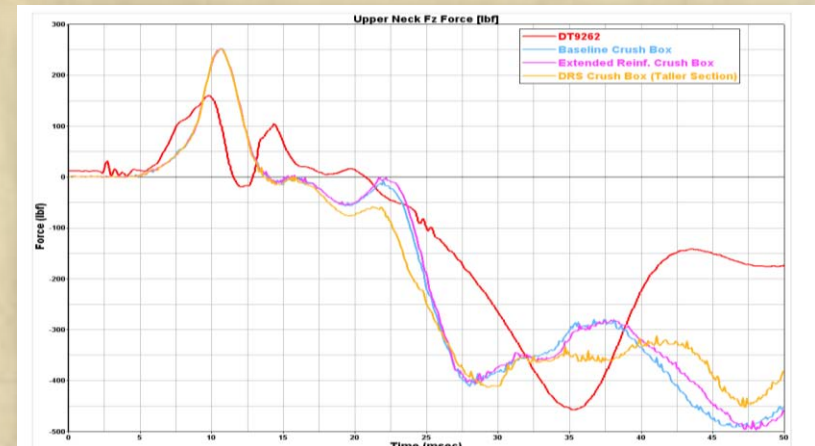
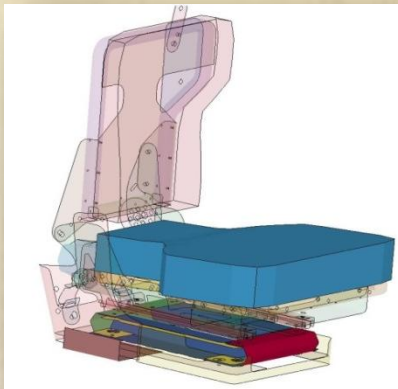
- Recent Seat Development Programs:
  - TWVS ATO Seat Selection
  - ASV Seating Modernization
  - MRAP Caiman RWS Seating
  - MRAP Remote Weapons Station Integration
  - MRAP RG31 Crew Seat Enhancement
- Current Seat Development Programs:
  - Cervigard Seat CRADA
    - Develop seat concept, FEA analysis, and sub-system level testing
  - NDCEE CRADA
    - Develop EA seating concept, FEA analysis, and sub-system level testing
  - ARC Testing
    - Desk top tool derived from testing seat parameters (materials, thicknesses, occupant sizes).



- Objective: Provide PM MTV a recommendation for the crew seat to be installed in the FMTV Integrated Survivability Demonstrator (ISD) and FMTV Ballistic Demonstrator (BALDEM) and receive concurrence on the path forward.
- The following seating candidates were evaluated using a combination of integration studies, cost analysis, modeling & simulation, and drop tower testing:
  - BAE Belts-to-Cab Seat
  - Martin Baker
  - Allen Vanguard
  - Armorworks Shockride
  - Isringhausen
  - GSS CCOOPPS Crush Box
  - Seats Inc.
  - Plasans/National Seating
  - Simula/Armor Holding
  - Mastercraft/Armor Holding
- The final candidate significantly reduced probability of pelvic, spinal, and lower extremity injuries for the driver. The results were verified in an overmatch under-wheel (driver's side) LFT&E event.

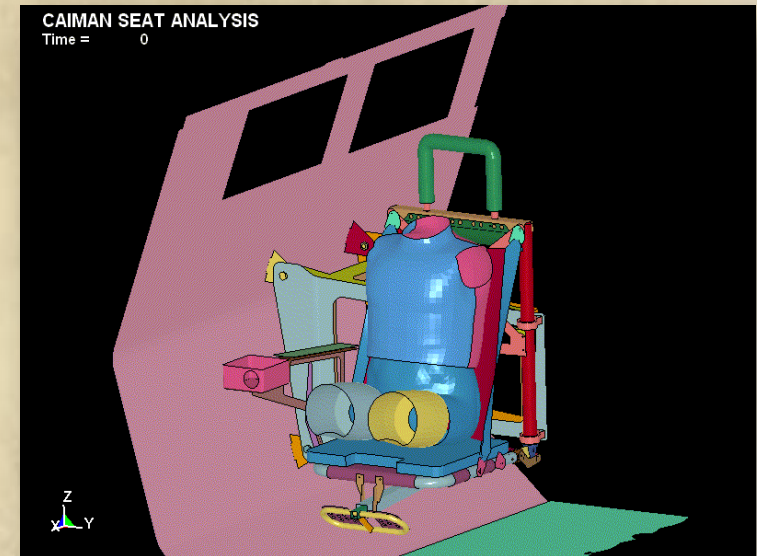


- Objective: Provide PM ASV a recommended crush box height and cushion thickness for their seating modifications. There was 130mm of available package space, and an optimized solution was required to balance comfort and blast mitigation.
- Modeling & Simulation
  - The finite element seat model was correlated to a series of drop tower tests
  - A series of parametric analyses were run using several variables for the crush box against the competing variable of cushion thickness.
- The analysis showed that a height reduction to 40mm and reconfiguration of the crush-box would actually perform better than the initial direction provided by the PM (60mm).
- PM ASV is currently in the process of fabricating and testing the prototypes of the final configuration.





- Objective: Provide an analysis for the reorientation of the Remote Weapons Station (RWS) seating location for the MRAP Caiman PM.
- Modeling & Simulation:
  - A correlated model of the Caiman was already available from previous analyses.
  - A design of the bracket for seat mounting was provided by the PM.
  - Evaluated a worst-case (95% male, full PPE) and best-case (5% female, standard PPE).
  - Plastic strain and effective stress on the mounting bracket were evaluated to ensure the material thresholds were not exceeded.
- The mounting bracket did not exceed the stress or strain thresholds for the materials selected.
- The solution was fielded with a minimum of physical testing and quicker turn-around-time.
- TARDEC also provided additional feedback relative to improvements in the Energy Absorbing (EA) mechanism and the integral footrest.

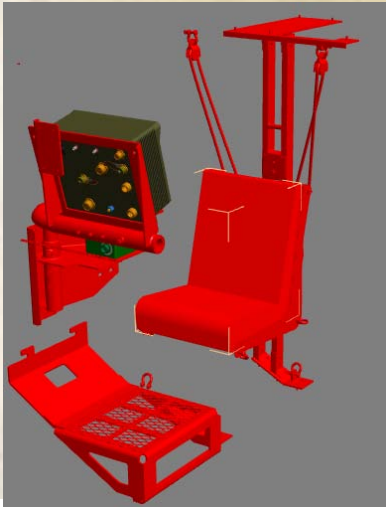




# MRAP Remote Weapon Station (RWS) Occupant Seat Integration



- Several MRAP variants to be integrated with RWS; seats and footrests need to be rotated to face forward and maintain the same survivability performance
  - Existing seat, existing mount points on vehicle and seat
- TARDEC GSS and CASSI Analytics
  - Decomposed existing seat
  - Added new bracket developed in-house to mode
  - Computationally reconstructed past MRAP tests in both the current and RWS-integrated configurations.



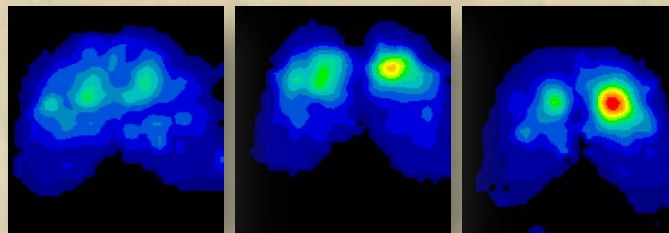
- » Determined that new bracket design would most likely not fail and occupant impact protection was not significantly impacted
- » Model is currently being refined – seat contractor CAD provided, impulses verified, occupant weights updated to represent test configuration
- » Reduced the need to retest full vehicle

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- Objective: Evaluate two seat concepts (XBOX 1 and 2) that were developed to address severe spinal injuries being seen in theater.
- TARDEC Engineering Approach:
  - CAD and finite element models were generated from the paper concepts.
  - Parametric M&S analyses were run to determine the optimum parameters for the designs.
  - Prototype parts were fabricated from the optimized design.
  - Drop tower testing of the prototypes were compared to the baseline seat, as well as a field of approximately 20 other seat concepts and COTS solutions, using the following equation:
 
$$\left( \frac{Pelvis_{AZ}}{A_{critical}} + \frac{Spine_{Fz}}{F_{critical}} \right) * \frac{1}{\max AZ_{input}} * T_{\max Pelvis_{AZ}} * 1000$$
  - A static and dynamic comfort evaluation of the top candidates was also performed by TARDEC.



- The top three candidates were provided to PM MRAP for further consideration. Neither of the XBOX solutions were finalists.

# Underbody Programs

- Recent Underbody Development Programs:
  - Tactical Wheeled Vehicle Survivability Underbody Kit Development
- Current Underbody Development Programs:
  - HEMTT Support
    - Develop
  - Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) Support
    - M&S support to predict / validate vendor underbody performance
  - Combat Vehicle Armor Development (CVAD) ATO support
    - Provide a best practice guide on underbody design (standoff, geometry, material, etc.)
  - Lockheed Martin & Fire Control
    - Test Lightweight Titanium Protected Crew Compartment
  - Zero-G
    - Proof of Concept to decouple the crew floor and increase occupant survivability
  - Generic Hull Testing
    - Releasable (to the general public) test data on hull testing and ATD resulting injuries
  - HMMWV V-Hull
    - Virtually integrate and validate blast performance



- Requirement for upgraded underbody protection on TWVS ATO Demonstrator
- Partnership with TARDEC GSS, ARL/WMRD, TARDEC CASSI, Letterkenny Army Depot
- Physical and computational analysis
  - Space claim under and inside vehicle
- U-kit was modeled
  - Existing cab, existing appurtenances
- ... And Tested
  - Prototypes were attached to representative hull/chassis, mine tested at ATC



- U-kit for TWVS ATO Demonstrator provides increased underbody protection

# Interior Technologies

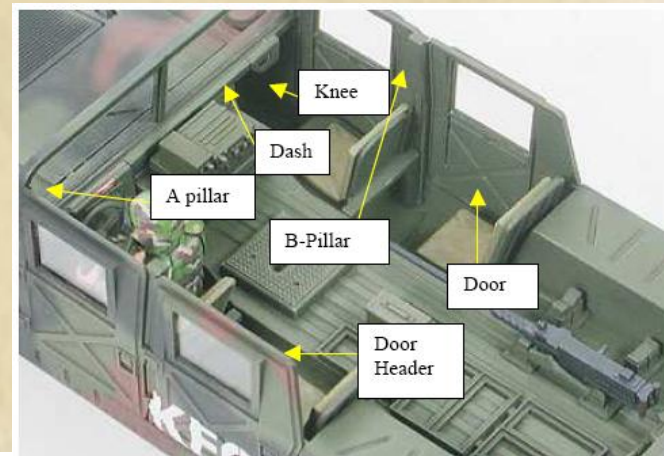
- Recent Programs:
  - Interior Appliqué for the TWVS Demonstrator
- Current Programs:
  - Air Bag / Restraint Technologies
    - TK Holding CRADA
      - Develop a suite of restraints and airbags to decrease occupant injury during a blast, IED, or crash event
  - Vehicle Data Recorder
    - Integrate DTS Transient Shock Recorders into currently fielded vehicles, upgrade existing COTS systems, and data analysis infrastructure
  - ATD Development
    - Perform cadaveric testing to characterize and develop a test dummy designed for the vertical loading seen in blast and IED events.



- Leverage existing Phase II SBIR – Texas Research Institute, Austin
  - Expanded polypropylene w/ polyurea coating
  - Reduces blunt trauma injury to occupants
- Additional funding added to contract to develop prototype kits in support of TWVS ATO Demonstrator
  - Provide vehicle CAD to contractor
  - Determine high risk points for blunt trauma in vehicle
  - Utilize existing high heat testing at TARDEC to verify appliqué attachment
- Appliqué kit on TWVS ATO Demonstrator FY 10 full-scale testing



Material is unaffected by salt water!



- Blast/IED Event Data Recorder System:
  - Gaps exist in data collected in theater
    - Accurate post blast/crash data collection techniques and recording equipment do not currently exist
    - Without full understanding of the blast/crash events, countermeasures cannot be optimally designed and integrated
  - Limiting Factors:
    - Accurate determination of the causative effects of injuries to the Warfighter
    - Understanding of injury mechanisms within operational context
    - Materiel/training solution development
    - Situational awareness of threat type and vehicle performance
  - This directly supports:
    - Development of test procedures and resultant countermeasures to protect the Warfighter
    - Accident and combat event investigations
    - Gathering information for vehicle diagnostics and prognostics
    - Refine and improve Tactics Techniques and Procedures (TTP)

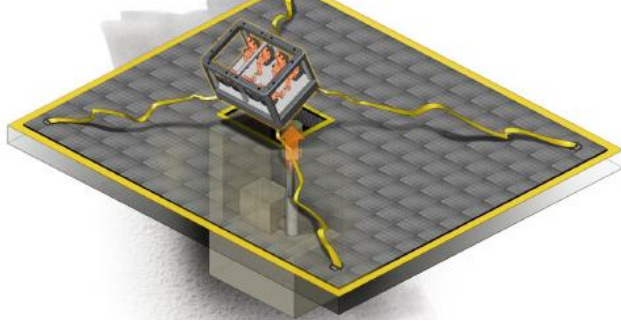


Tri-axial accelerometer,  
angular rate and  
pressure sensor

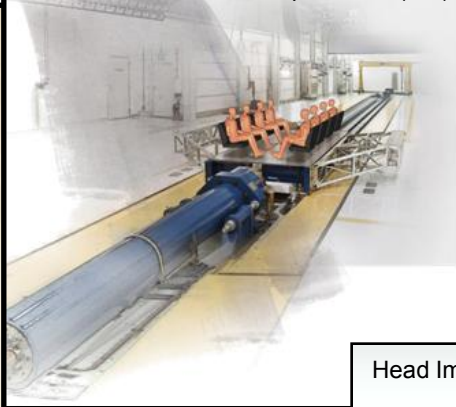
**Critical data is unobtainable unless  
collected in real-time**



Multi-Axis Blast Simulator (MABS)



Linear Impact Sled (LIS)



Vertical Impact Tower (VIT)



Head Impact Protection (HIP)



**Purpose:** The OP SIL provides the mechanism to evaluate, optimize, integrate, and validate occupant centric survivability and safety systems to mitigate injury due to blast and crash events.

**Products:**

The test equipment simulates blast & crash events and evaluates the occupant and protection system response to these forces.

- MABS: Underbelly blast events at system level
- LIS: Front & side impact, side IED, and rollover
- VIT: Vertical forces and floor deformation
- HIP: Head protection systems

**Payoff:**

**MABS**

- State-of-the-art unique piece of test equipment
- Reduced number of LFT&E (~LFT&E \$75,000 - \$150,000; MABS ~\$15,400)

**LIS**

- Multiple crash events evaluated on one test device
- System design optimization for multiple impacts

**VIT**

- Assess multiple occupants & lower extremity injury
- Configurable platform - vehicle specific layout

**HIP**

- Low cost, quick assessment of a head impact protection
- Assess interior padding solutions

# Conclusion

- Occupant Survivability needs to be designed in from the **beginning, not as an afterthought... design from the inside out**
- Occupant Survivability is a complex issue that involves many technologies optimized for each unique system